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[2016.03.08-Metro Monitor.xlsx](#)  
[2016.03.07-03.12 Flint Michigan clips.xlsx](#)

#### Flint Stops Mailing Water Bills to Residents

By Daniel White, TIME 03/09/16 7:21 PM

Flint Mayor Karen Weaver on Wednesday ordered the city to stop mailing out water bills until credits can be applied to the city's customers. Weaver said that the Michigan city's employees "are doing everything they can" to get Flint utility customers accounts in order, according to the Detroit News. The process includes applying adjustments to the city's more than 85,000 active and inactive utility accounts. The city became famous after it switched to using the Flint River as its water source, which caused high levels of lead contamination in drinking water.

#### Flint to water customers: The bill's not in the mail

By Steve Carmody, Michigan Radio 03/09/16 6:33 PM

There's so much confusion about Flint's water and sewer rates that the city is suspending mailing bills to the city's residents. During the past year, there's been almost as much happening to Flint's water and sewer bills as the city's water pipes. A judge last year ordered the city to roll back a 2011 and also ruled the current rates were OK.

#### Flint temporarily suspends sending out water bills

By Matt Helms, Detroit Free Press 03/09/16 6:25 PM

Flint Mayor Karen Weaver has suspended water billing temporarily – for about a month – while the city works out how it will apply \$30 million from the state of Michigan to help residents who've paid for nearly two years for water that's unsafe to drink.

#### Flint Suspending Water Bills Amid Confusion, State Aid

By AP for ABC News 03/09/16 5:44 PM

Flint says it will stop sending water bills to residents until April so it can account for \$30 million in aid from the state of Michigan. Recent bills have caused frustration and confusion. In a statement Wednesday, Mayor Karen Weaver identified a few factors, including court decisions about rates that are separate from the lead-contaminated water crisis.

#### Flint to stop sending water bills until credits applied

By Jennifer Chambers, Detroit News 03/09/16 5:29 PM

Flint's mayor has suspended the mailing of utility bills to residents to give the city time to apply credits to water bills. Mayor Karen Weaver said on Wednesday that city employees "are doing everything they can" to get accounts in order, including making adjustments and obtaining the proper computer programs to calculate and apply adjustments and credits to the city's more than 85,000 active and inactive utility accounts on record from April 2014 to present.

#### Flint Finally Suspends Water Utility Billing Amid Lead Crisis

By Phil Helsel, NBC News 03/09/16 5:18 PM

The mayor of Flint, Michigan, on Wednesday announced the city will stop billing for water as it tries to implement a program designed to assist residents who have been exposed to lead poisoning. Michigan's governor last week approved a \$30 million plan to help Flint residents with water bills amid the "man-made disaster," Flint Mayor Karen Weaver said in a statement, and the bills are being suspended while the city tries to get that program going.

#### Flint mayor suspends utility bills until new water credits finalized

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 03/09/16 4:41 PM

City officials have suspended water bills until credits and adjustments are finalized. Mayor

Karen Weaver announced on Wednesday that the city is suspending utility billing until the necessary adjustments and credits are placed on water bills after a group bills went out last week sparking controversy as customers noticed that an adjustment had been placed on the bills increasing the amount owed.

#### Michigan TV stations to host telethon for Flint

By Jennifer Calfas, Michigan Radio 03/09/16 3:43 PM

The fundraising efforts for Flint just keep coming. Several Michigan TV stations will come together March 15 to host "Flint Water Crisis: 4 Our Families," a telethon that will last from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. to raise funds for the Community Foundation of Greater Flint's Child Health and Development Fund.

#### Telethon Will Raise Funds To Benefit Flint Children Impacted by Water Crisis

By Pride Source, 03/09/16

In an effort to provide long-term support for Flint children and families affected by the water crisis in Flint, WDIV-TV, the NBC affiliate in Detroit, will host "Flint Water Crisis: 4 Our Families (#FlintKids)," a telethon benefiting the Community Foundation of Greater Flint and its Flint Child Health and Development Fund ([www.flintkids.org](http://www.flintkids.org)), Tuesday, March 15. On air from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., localized versions of the telethon will air across the state of Michigan on WEYI-TV (Flint), WILX-TV (Lansing), WOOD-TV (Grand Rapids) and 9&10 (Northern Michigan).

#### Several TV stations plan telethon amid Flint water crisis

By 9 & 10 News 03/09/16 11:32 AM

Several TV stations plan to air a telethon to raise money to help Flint children and families amid the city's crisis with lead-tainted water. Detroit's WDIV-TV on Tuesday hosts "Flint Water Crisis: 4 Our Families (#FlintKids)" to benefit the Community Foundation of Greater Flint and its Flint Child Health and Development Fund. It's scheduled to air from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### Michigan governor requests millions in tax dollars for legal defense

By Cathaleen Chen, Christian Science Monitor 03/09/16

Amid calls for him to resign, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder is requesting \$1.2 million to pay for his defense attorneys in the ongoing Flint water crisis case. Additionally, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette is calling for \$1.5 million to pay an independent investigation of the government's involvement in the crisis....

### Sen. Mike Lee in talks over his hold on aid for Flint's water woes

By Matt Canham, The Salt Lake Tribune 03/09/16 6:50 PM

Negotiations between Sens. Mike Lee and Debbie Stabenow are progressing over \$220 million in aid to help rebuild the lead-poisoned water system in Flint, Mich. Sources within the Senate outed Lee last week for placing a "hold" on the bipartisan funding package, hoping the negative attention would force him to change his position and allow the legislation to go to a vote. In reaction, Lee released a statement saying he felt that "federal aid is not needed at this time" and called it "political grandstanding."

### Schumer: 'Flint May Have Been Just the Tip of the Iceberg'

By Will Bredderman, Observer 03/09/16 1:51 PM

Sen. Charles Schumer announced today that he will propose a \$100 million federal grant to allow schools nationwide to test their water for unsafe levels of lead—a response to both the mass poisoning in Flint, Mich. and to the discovery of the heavy metal in the water systems of public schools in upstate Ithaca.

### Bernie Sanders Won Michigan, But Hillary Clinton Won Flint

By Arthur Delaney & Daniel Marans, Huffington Post 03/09/16 3:22 PM

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) won the Michigan Democratic primary on Tuesday, but Hillary Clinton won Flint, the Michigan city that received the most attention in the run-up to the election. Clinton won Flint with 65 percent of the vote to Sanders' 34 percent, according to Greg Giroux, who crunched the raw numbers for Bloomberg Government. Sanders won the state with 49.8 percent to Clinton's 48.3, a result earlier polls had failed to predict.

### Sen. Peters wants "toughest" pipeline regulations for Great Lakes, \$100M for Flint water crisis

By Josh Hakala, Michigan Radio 03/09/16 1:00 PM

U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D) has two big projects on his plate in an effort to strengthen protections for the Great Lakes and provide funding for the city of Flint in the wake of the water crisis. The U.S. Senate recently gave unanimous approval to a funding bill that includes important protections for the Great Lakes. The bill re-authorizes the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), which is the federal agency that oversees pipelines.

### Outside Legal Fees Linked To Flint Water Crisis Could Rise To Over a Million Dollars

By Jamie Valentine, 9 & 10 News 03/08/16 3:56 PM

Governor Snyder's office says outside legal fees related to Flint's water crisis could climb to more than a million dollars. Previously estimated legal fees that will be paid with public money, hovered at nearly \$1 million in February.

### Fitch Ratings retracts \$275B estimate to replace all lead pipes

By Matthew Dolan, Detroit Free Press 03/08/16 7:24 PM

Fitch Ratings corrected its cost estimate for replacing the nation's lead service lines, saying the amount would be "a few billion to \$50 billion." On Friday, the rating company announced that more than 6 million lead service lines exist across the country, including many in the Northeast, Midwest and older urban areas.

### Flint bakery hurt by water crisis reopens after big community boost

By Jiquanda Johnson, MLIVE 03/09/16 6:36 PM

Efforts to raise \$12,000 to reopen a nearly century-old bakery paid off last week helping a longtime business owner reopen doors to Balkan Bakery on Dayton in Flint. Bakery owner Barbara Reiff, said a GoFundMe campaign started by a customer helped her pay the outstanding Consumers Energy bill in order to get electric and gas services restored at her store.

### Big Ten Network PSA spotlights Flint water crisis aid by MSU, UM-Flint

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 03/09/16 6:32 PM

A public service announcement to air on the Big Ten Network and to crowd during the Big Ten men's basketball tournament in the buildup to March Madness highlights two universities' roles in aiding during the Flint water crisis. The one-minute PSA features staff from the University of Michigan-Flint and the Michigan State University College of Medicine in the city discussing the situation and the need for program, such as the model health program for children and importance of replacing lead pipes in the city.

### Art Van Furniture pledges up to \$100K toward Flint water crisis

By Oakland Press Business 03/09/16 5:09 PM

Art Van Furniture has pledged to donate five percent of sales at area stores— up to \$100,000 — in a telethon to benefit children affected by the Flint water crisis. WDIV-TV, Detroit, will host “Flint Water Crisis: 4 Our Families,” a telethon 6 a.m.-8 p.m. March 15 to benefit The Community Foundation of Greater Flint’s Flint Child Health and Development Fund. The telethon will simulcast on WEYI-TV (Flint), WILX-TV (Lansing), WOOD-TV (Grand Rapids) and 9&10 (Northern Michigan) and in Flint, at Art Van Furniture, 4577 Miller Road, according to a press release from Art Van Furniture.

### The Flint water crisis ‘woke me up at night,’ EMT says. So she decided to do something about it.

By Lynh Bui, Washington Post 03/09/16 3:33 PM

When Elisa Miller thought about the residents of Flint, Mich. going without clean drinking water, she knew she had to do something. “It woke me up at night,” Miller said. “The people in Michigan must have been praying really hard if it kept me up all the way over here.” So the volunteer EMT spearheaded a water collection effort in Prince George’s County.

### FLO RIDA AND LALPINA WATER IN FLINT, MICHIGAN

By EIN News 03/09/16

"At the end of the day, no one has a better overall grasp of the water business, our shareholder relationships, our brand ambassadors and the vision forward than I do," Culbreth noted. Part of Culbreth's vision is making a contribution to society. Longtime LALPINA brand ambassador

rapper Flo Rida recently made a stop in Flint, Michigan with 18 pallets of LALPINA WATER to help offset the city's water crisis. The city had been placed under a state of emergency after having switched its water source without adding anti-corrosion chemicals.

#### Flint Mayor Who Backed Hillary Got \$500,000 From Clinton Donors for Water Program

By Michael Aria, AlterNet 03/09/16

The Flint WaterWorks initiative, a program that will help provide young people with jobs to assist those impacted by the water crisis, was announced on Sunday by Flint mayor Karen Weaver and former first daughter Chelsea Clinton. A story from the Detroit Free Press revealed that the project was created through a \$500,000 donation from J.B. and M.K. Pritzker, who are among the top donors to outside groups that support the former Secretary of State.

#### Stamford firm in 'bath-pack' effort for Flint

By Alexander Soule, Stamford Advocate 03/09/16 11:19 AM

A day after the Michigan primaries refocused attention anew on the Flint, Mich. water crisis, Stamford-based High Ridge Brands announced it is donating thousands of shampoo and soap it sells to benefit Flint families. High Ridge Brands is donating Zest and Coast soap and VO5 and White Rain shampoo as well as Rave hairspray to Family-to-Family, a nonprofit in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., for distribution as part of its "Bath-Packs for Flint" campaign to provide travel-ready bags filled with soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, toothpaste and a travel toothbrush for showering on the go.

#### Flint receives federal help for technology training

By Melissa Nann Burke, Detroit News 03/09/16 8:15 AM

Flint is among the cities selected for the expansion of a federal program to help cities coordinate skills training to connect Americans with well-paying technology jobs. The Obama administration is expanding its "TechHires" program from its initial base of 21 communities, which included Detroit last year, to 50 communities working with 200 to 300 employers in information technology fields such as software development, network administration and cybersecurity.

## **Other News**

### Inmates suing over water quality at Flint jail

By Gary Ridley, MLIVE 03/09/16 4:02 PM

Two jail inmates are asking a federal judge to step in to ensure that they and others who are locked up receive clean drinking water while at the Genesee County Jail. Douglas Long and Renee Hodges filed a lawsuit Tuesday, March 8, in Detroit U.S. District Court asking a federal judge to force Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell to "provide safe and clean water to all those confined presently and in the future at the jail."

### Flint water crisis sparks hiring push for early childhood programs

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 03/09/16 8:35 AM

A hiring push is on after millions of dollars from the state and federal government have been pumped into the Flint area for early childhood programs and at-home services for toddlers in the face of the water crisis. The Genesee Intermediate School District is holding a job fair from 3 p.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 9 at the Genesee Career Institute Innovation Zone, 5081 Torrey Road, in Mundy Township and includes openings for several employee positions.

### Focus on the Long Haul in Flint

By US News & World Report 03/09/16 8:00 AM

Sunday's debate between Democratic presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders held in Flint, Michigan focused new attention on the city's water contamination crisis. Millions of dollars are pouring in to fix pipes that contaminated the water in Flint with lead, and both candidates called for additional aid. But it will take much more than replacing pipes to truly support the community and give it the power to bounce back from slow-moving disasters that were already happening long before the discovery of lead in its drinking water.

## **Opinions**

### These Are the People Who Voted in Michigan, and This Is Why They Did

By Charles P. Pierce, Esquire 03/09/16

The Flint River, poisoned source of the city's drinking water, winds its way through a neighborhood along East Hamilton Street, where there are as many houses without windows as



there are with them, and where you see something you don't often see in these very religious United States—derelict churches, all boarded up, two or three of them at a time.

### Flint's Water Crisis: A Chronicle of Disenfranchisement, Denial, and Buck-Passing

By Yves Smith, Naked Capitalism 03/09/16

The ACLU of Michigan just released a must-see short documentary on the Flint water crisis. It's important that this not be forgotten even as the scandal has died down and eyes are moving off Michigan now that the Democratic debate and state primary have passed.

### Black voters, Flint, and why the media wrongly assumed Hillary Clinton would win Michigan

By Callum Borchers, Washington Post 03/09/16 4:41 PM

“Ever since Flint’s water crisis became a national story at the beginning of the year, Hillary Clinton has done everything in her power to own the issue in the Democratic primary, to Bernie Sanders’s detriment,” the New Republic’s Rebecca Leber wrote in February.

### The Referendum That Could Have Saved Flint

By Alec MacGillis, Pacific Standard 03/09/16 7:00 PM

The tragic lead poisoning of the Flint water supply in Michigan is a study in bureaucratic bungling, racial inequity, and national media inattention. But the fallout from the crisis has obscured another lesson: There are consequences when those in power are able simply to circumvent the public will. For two decades, Michigan has used emergency managers to supplant local elected officials and bring order to its most financially troubled cities. Flint has been overseen since 2011 by a succession of these state appointees, who have power to cut spending and sell off assets to raise money.

### Stir it Up: Flint, politics make strange bedfellows

By Larry Gabriel, Detroit Metro Times 03/09/16

Democratic candidates Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders have been drawn to the tragedy like flies to sugar. Both of the candidates have commercials on the airwaves addressing the Flint situation, which has gained the attention of world media. Sanders' commercial describing a

parent watching a child's mental capacity diminish is particularly insightful.

Letter: Plenty of blame to go around in Flint crisis

By David Welch, Chico ER 03/08/16 11:46 PM

Bob Gustafson (letters, March 3) could have a promising career as a fiction writer if he could learn to make his plots at least slightly believable. His claims that Democratic local officials were responsible for the water contamination in Flint, Michigan are, as per usual for Gustafson, entirely fictional. A little online search for “history of Flint water crisis” discloses something closer to reality.

Thankfulness and A Call To Action On International Women's Day

By A. Tianna Scozzaro, Huffington Post 03/08/16 10:55 AM

In Flint, Michigan, lead poisoning results in miscarriages and cognitive impairments in children. It feels unjust. And that is because, in large part, it is. In these situations -- occurring thousands of miles apart -- women and children are disproportionately suffering the consequences.

Free Trade And Flint: What Sanders And Clinton Got Right And Wrong On Nafta

By Owen Davis, International Business Times 03/07/16 6:56 PM

Democratic presidential hopefuls Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders debated in Flint, Michigan, Sunday night, sparring in a city that gained national attention after it was discovered that its residents were drinking toxic tap water. Yet the two differed little in how they might address the fact that Flint’s children have tested positive for dangerous levels of lead. Instead, what the former secretary of state and the socialist Vermont senator parried over most was another topic with special significance to Flint residents: trade policy.

ACLU of Michigan Releases Documentary 'Here's To Flint' on Flint Water Crisis

By ACLU Michigan 03/08/16 [video clip]

As part of its ongoing look into the Flint water crisis, the ACLU of Michigan today released “Here’s To Flint,” a searing documentary that examines the origins of the disaster and the determined efforts of Flint residents, activists and researchers to learn the truth about the city’s

lead-contaminated drinking water.

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